

(c) whether the proposed quality audit of trains under 'Project Swaran' will be on the basis of nine parameters, done by third party agency identified as Quality Council of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) There is no proposal to start rating of trains based on punctuality, cleanliness on board, toilets, coaches and interiors.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No decision has been taken to get the trains audited by the Quality Council of India under the "Project Swaran".

Safety of passengers

3003. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the safety of passengers during their travel in Railways; and

(b) whether any new technology is being introduced in Railways to identify causes and prevent train accidents across the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of the GRP by providing better protection and security of passengers by way of escorting of trains, providing access control at major stations, assisting passengers in distress through Security Helpline number 182, exercising surveillance at about 344 railway stations through close circuit television cameras etc. Regular co-ordination is also being made with the State Police/GRP authorities at all levels to improve security of passengers during their travel in Railways.

(b) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis including upgradation of technology to aid safe running of trains. These include replacement of over-aged assets, elimination of unmanned level crossings, adoption of suitable technologies for up gradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems used to prevent

accidents include complete track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Train Protection Warning Systems (TPWS), Colour light LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device (VCD), usage of 60 kg rails and Pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, long rail panels, better welding technology, digital types of machines for ultrasonic flaw detection (USFD), electronic monitoring of tracks using Track Recording Cars (TRC) and portable oscillation monitoring system (OMS), progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch(LHB) Coaches, Centre Buffer Coupler with Integral Coach Factory(ICF) Coaches etc. Other measures include training of loco pilots and other safety category staff, improvement of other working conditions including proper rest and periodic medical examinations etc. Besides, periodic safety drives, inspections as per laid down schedules, patrolling of tracks, footplate inspections and safety reviews at various levels are continuously conducted to monitor and improve safety aspects of the Railways.

CCTV cameras in coaches for safety

†3004. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether installation of high definition CCTV cameras (Day-Night long time memory) on both the entry gates, opposite to each other, in every coach would be considered, keeping in view the theft of luggage in the coaches of the trains and for security of women;

(b) if so, whether these high definition cameras would be effective to curb incidents of luggage theft, stopping miscreants and for safety of passengers; and

(c) if so, the reasons for reluctance to install high definition CCTV cameras, if not, by when it would be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Railways has installed CCTV cameras on a limited number of coaches of passenger and suburban trains on a pilot basis. As on 12.07.17.

- CCTV cameras have been installed by Northern Railway in 21 coaches.
- 10 Humsafar rakes have been fitted with CCTVs by Modern Coach Factory, Rae Bareli and Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala (RCF) (5 rakes each).
- CCTV system has been provided in one rake of Tejas train service by RCF.
- CCTVs have been provided in 6 Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) rakes by ICF.
- Integral Coach Factory, Chennai (ICF) has provided CCTVs in 20 coaches of Mainline trains.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.